

# Grandmothers met challenges of 19th century

PROVO — Some might think two cemetery columns in succession might be a little much, but I have something to say, so . . .

After we went to Moroni to take care of the graves for my wife's family, we went to Heber to do the same with mine. It is where all my forebears rest, and where, also, will I.

All four of my grandparents are there, along with a brother and two sisters and countless cousins I never knew.

It is my two grandmothers who interest me most. Valiant was a pale word to describe either of them. Men are supposed to be valiant, on the frontier or anywhere else. The 19th century was a time for women to drop handkerchiefs and swoon, but not in the West and especially not in Utah.

When Jane McDonald was 17, her father died of cholera as they were Mormon converts en route to Zion. Jane McDonald picked up the bullwhip and drove the oxen on to Utah. She became Mrs. George Washington Clyde, and my mother was their youngest child. Grandma Clyde was feisty and a character with a capital C. The Indians never bothered her family in Heber. I

think the reason was she would have eaten them alive. The story survives of the time they lived in Springville before moving to Heber. There was an Indian scare. Grandfather Clyde grabbed their two children and yelled for her to join them in a dash for the safety of the fort. She had stashed \$200



AS IT LOOKS  
TO LUKE  
Theron  
h. luke

(the amount varies with the telling) somewhere in the one-room cabin that was their home. She couldn't immediately find it. With my grandfather yelling at her to come before she lost all that Irish hair, she grimly stuck with her task until she found the money. All I can say, it was lucky for the Indians they didn't find her.

She had it relatively easy after they moved to Heber. Grandfather Clyde, quite an entrepreneur, prospered with cattle and

land. The house they built in Heber in 1874 was a mansion for its time. Not for South Temple, but certainly for Heber.

Harriet Ellen Luce, born in North Fox Island, Maine, and later a resident of Nauvoo, came to Utah after her family had been forced to farm her out with others. She reached Palmyra where her mother had married again. Seeking independence she walked 65 miles to Salt Lake City to seek employment. There she heard of a job for a hired girl at Sessions Settlement near Bountiful. The job was gone when she arrived, but she got another. She had walked from Salt Lake to Sessions Settlement, too.

Eventually returning to Palmyra, she met and married Henry Luke. They became my grandparents. In Heber, Henry caught pneumonia from irrigating in his bare feet in a cold summer rain. He died barely past 30. Harriet Luce Luke raised her family alone on the frontier without benefit of any aid for dependent children program. They gleaned in the fields, like Ruth of the Bible. My father told me of the children gathering wool from sagebrush and fences where sheep had passed, which their mother spun into cloth and made

their clothes. Clabbered milk for supper was a luxury for my father.

And in addition to everything else she went through, Harriet Luce Luke was a practical nurse, long before the term was invented. When anyone was sick, the Widow Luke was summoned. She is, above all people, my favorite frontier heroine.



Visits to cemeteries with people long gone are not sad. This year for us, Charleston was. There are buried Dee Winterton and his 11-year-old son, JayDee, who both died in a tragic accident last fall.

Dee Winterton loved everyone. On his headstone is the simple inscription, "Just remember that we love you."

Over the years, Sundance and Walk-Ons have each produced "Pippin." In it is a classic song whose words are: "Rivers belong where they can ramble. Eagles belong where they can fly. I've got to be where my spirit can run free. Got to find my corner of the sky."

The words are on JayDee's headstone. He didn't have much time to run free, but he has found his corner of the sky.

Elder James Joseph Haws, son of Wayne and Marge Haws of the Edgemont 3rd Ward, Mexico Veracruz Mission.

Sister Mary Jo Hoffman, daughter of Raymond and Betty Hoffman, of the Provo 36th Ward, South Africa Cape Town Mission.

Elder Roger Dwight Laws, son of Dwight and Linda Laws of the Edgemont 3rd Ward, Florida Tampa Mission.

Elder Robert Wade Leifson, son of Jack Waldo and Marilyn Thacker Leifson, of the Spanish Fork 3rd Ward, Brazil Sao Paulo South Mission.

Elder and Sister Carl D. and Carol Loveless of the Provo 18th Ward, Missouri Independence-Winter Quarters Mission.

Elder and Sister Lyman A. and Marguerite Madsen, of the Provo 48th Ward, south Dakota Rapid City.

Elder and Sister Kenneth W. and Anne Porter, of the Pleasant View 2nd Ward, England Coventry Mission.

Sister Shauna Alexander, daughter of Archie D. and Nadine Alexander of the Santaquin 3rd Ward, England Leeds Mission.

Elder Brian LeGrande. Anderson, son of Roland and Mary Anderson of

nich Mission.

Elder Alan Richard Davis, son of Betty Jo Davis of the Orem 19th Ward, Italy Rome Mission.

Elder Samuel Paul Dean, son of W. Paul Dean of the Payson 17th Ward, Dominican Republic Santa Domingo Mission.

Elder Robert Lincoln Edwards, son of Larry C. and Mary E. Edwards of the Alpine 8th Ward, Costa Rica San Jose Mission.

Elder Jon Fred Finch, son of Fred H. Finch of the Payson 3rd Ward, Los Angeles, California Tongan Mission.

Elder Edwin Michael Johnson, son of A. Michael and Amelia Johnson of the Alpine 5th Ward, Canada Vancouver Mission.

Elder Russell Arden Makin, son of Arden L. and Lyda I. Makin of the Manila 2nd Ward, Indiana Indianapolis Mission.

Sister Laura Beth Mosher, daughter of L. Cameron and Patricia Ann Mosher of the Pleasant Grove 19th Ward, Peru Arequipa Mission.

Sister Brenda La Nae Naylor, daughter of Samuel Gilbert and Leola Naylor of the Springville 7th Ward, Philippines Manila Mission.

Sister Dardree Joyce Smith, daughter of Anthon Leon and Rosalie J. Smith of the Manila 1st Ward, Texas San Antonio Mission.

Elder and Sister Daryl and Olive Stanley of the Orem 32nd Ward, Ohio Cleveland Mission.

Elder Frank Jay Tervort, son of El-

Elder Craig Leon Woodfield, son of Leon and Janet Woodfield of the Springville 10th Ward, England Bristol Mission.

Sister Dawnell Lynn Zeller, daughter of Eldon and Nina Zeller of the Lakeview 1st Ward, Germany Hamburg Mission.

## Twins

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who can have the best one, but we do compare notes and try to help each other and the department out all the time," Evan said.

The only time the brothers ever get to work together now is if there is a large fire and all the reserves are called out.

"That makes it so there is always someone who is off to feed the horses," Ivan said. The twins in their spare time do just about everything together, including raising race horses.

"We hunt, fish and go places together. So I guess it was no surprise that we both became firemen."

Both brothers agree that because they know the dangers of their job

they worry about one another when one hears the sirens wail and know the other could be going out on a major fire with its dangers.

Their most memorable fire, they agree, was when a train derailed.

"About 13 carloads of new cars tipped over and caught fire and started burning in between some cars that were carrying Navy bombs. The railroad told us to evacuate, but we stuck with it and got it out," Evan said.

Each of the men have families and grandchildren and Viola Henderson, their mother, is still a resident of Provo. Both say she is proud of her firefighter sons. Neither of the brothers has any twins in their families.

Justin, Evan's 10 year-old son, said when asked what he thought of his dad's and uncle's job: "Well, if I don't make the majors, then I want to be a fireman, too."